

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 11479 231628Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5671

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 11479

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, PDIP, FI, BE

SUBJECT: NEW BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TO FINLAND

REF HELSINKI 2732

1. AMBASSADOR GUY STUYCK IS WELL KNOWN TO US. HE HAS SERVED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SINCE 1970 AS CHIEF OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WORLD COMMERCE. STUYCK IS A TRADE AND COMMODITIES EXPERT, AND HAS REPRESENTED BELGIUM IN THE MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS HANDLING THESE MATTERS - GATT, OECD, AND UNCTAD. HE IS FRIENDLY THOUGH SHY MAN, EASILY ACCESSIBLE, AND ALWAYS WILLING TO HEAR OUT US VIEWS AND PROVIDE FULL EXPLANATIONS OF BELGIAN POSITIONS. ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN HELPFUL IN OBTAINING SOME CHANGES IN BELGIAN POSITIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE EMBASSY'S REPRESENTATIONS, HE ADHERES TO TRADITIONAL BELGIAN VIEWS ON THE ROLE OF BELGIUM AS A SMALL COUNTRY, UNABLE TO INFLUENCE WORLD EVENTS AND DEPENDENT ON THE LARGER COUNTRIES IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE THIRD WORLD FOR ITS SURVIVAL AND ITS WELL-BEING. HE IS UNMARRIED, SOMEWHAT OF A LONER. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH FLUENTLY.

2. STUYCK WAS BORN IN ANTWERP IN 1921. HE HAS A DOCTORATE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND DIPLOMACY. HE ENTERED THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1947. HE SUBSEQUENTLY SERVED IN ROME (1951-53 AND AGAIN 1958-60); CAIRO (1960-61); BUCHAREST (1961-62); LONDON (1962-65); AND GENEVA AS CONSUL GENERAL (1967-70). IN 1968 HE WAS THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO GATT. HELSINKI IS HIS FIRST AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENT. RENNER

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NNN

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